

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for deriving a class prior to run-time having a first given name, comprising:

___making an independent copy of an entire tree of the class, said independent copy of the entire tree of the class forming a second entire tree of the class so that two independent trees of the class are provided, the class including an instance of a generic attribute class and an instance of a generic method class, the instance of the generic method class including an instance of a generic parameter class,

___storing the independent copy of the entire tree of the class, and

___changing said first given name in order to assign a second name to the stored copy, the independent copy including a table specifying at least one parent of the independent copy and all ascendants of the independent copy, if any, wherein the steps are performed during a design stage prior to run-time;

wherein subsequent modifications to said generic attribute class or said generic method class are not propagated to said independent copy.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the copy is made through a serialization of the tree representing said class by copying the tree into a memory, and storing the copy of the tree comprises copying the tree again into memory.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the derivation is an inheritance of the class.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the derivation is an instantiation of the class.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, further comprising automatically generating the class by means of a tool having at least one dialog box.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, further comprising implementing the derivation by a computer designer, and using a command interface of a computer system used for control of the computer system by a user.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the derivation is an inheritance of the class.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the derivation is an instantiation of the class.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising automatically generating the class by means of a tool having at least one dialog box.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, further comprising automatically generating the class by means of a tool having at least one dialog box.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14, further comprising automatically generating the class by means of a tool having at least one dialog box.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, further comprising implementing the derivation by a computer designer, and using a command interface of a computer system used for control of the computer system by a user.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, further comprising implementing the derivation by a computer designer, and using a command interface of a computer system used for control of the computer system by a user.

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 23, further comprising implementing the derivation by a computer designer, and using a command interface of a computer system used for control of the computer system by a user.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A computer system configured to implement a method for deriving a class prior to run-time having a first given name, comprising:

___means for making an independent copy of an entire tree of the class, said independent copy of the entire tree of the class forming a second entire tree of the class so that two independent trees of the class are provided, the class including an instance of a generic attribute class and an instance of a generic method class, the instance of the generic method class including an instance of a generic parameter class,

___means for storing the independent copy of the entire tree of the class, and

___means for changing said first given name in order to assign a second name to the stored copy, the independent copy including a table specifying at least one parent of the independent copy and all ascendants of the independent copy, if any, wherein the steps are performed during a design stage prior to run-time;

wherein subsequent modifications to said generic attribute class or said generic method class are not propagated to said independent copy.

30. (Previously Presented) A computer system according to claim 29, wherein the copy is made through a serialization of the tree representing said class by copying the tree into a memory, and storing the copy of the tree consists of copying the tree again into memory.

31. (Previously Presented) A computer system according to claim 29, wherein the derivation is an inheritance of the class.

32. (Previously Presented) A computer system according to claim 29, wherein the derivation is an instantiation of the class.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) A computer system according to claim 29, the method further comprising automatically generating the class by means of a tool having at least one dialog box.

35. (Previously Presented) A computer system according to claim 29, the method further comprising implementing the derivation by a computer designer, and using a command interface of a computer system used for control of the computer system by a user.

36. (Previously Presented) A computer system according to claim 29, the method further including a command interface for implementing the method.

37. (Previously Presented) A computer system according to claim 29, wherein the command interface includes a design module for implementing the method by a designer and further including a console for the control of the computer system by a user.